



JULY 15, 2015
MDA Collaboration Meeting
STEM Outreach Program Review

**Sonya Dillard, Regional Coordinator
Alabama Regional Future City
Competition**



ALABAMA Regional Overview

- Started in 2003-2004 (12th year in existence)
- 1st year hosted at NASA / MSFC
- Hosted at UAH every year for over a decade!
 - UAH Student Center
 - UAH Shelby Center
- 2016 will be held at new location due to growth
 - U.S. Space & Rocket Ctr., Saturn Hall of Davidson Ctr.
- Annually we register about 35 schools
- Competition Day we usually have 17 – 22 schools competing



Saturday – January 16th, 2016

- Saturn Hall in the U.S. Space & Rocket Center (Davidson Center)
7:30am – 5:00pm

- Moved locations due to
 - parking issues
 - onsite construction
 - the growing size of our Regional Competition



- This new location will be ideal, since the National Winners attend Space Camp there.



- Win-Win solution for our Regional

ARFCC Winners & Special

Awards

Winning Team Prizes

1st place – \$300, Medals, Trophies and a Trip to Nationals in D.C.

2nd Place – \$250, Medals and Trophies

3rd Place – \$200, Medals and Trophies

Special Awards

- \$300 to winning team, and 1 plaque for the Classroom
- \$150 to winning team, and 1 plaque for the Classroom
- 14 Special Awards were given last year
- Teams love being able to receive Special Awards,

MDA Support to Alabama

Region

Planning Committee Member Support

Dr. LaRonda Conley has served as a Volunteer Coordinator on the Alabama Regional Planning committee since 2009 (7 years).

Competition Judges

MDA has provided approximately 5 competition judges each year, to our Region for the past 6 years.

Competition Day Volunteers

MDA has provided approximately 5 competition day volunteers each year, to our Region for the past 6 years.

Additional Support




Special Needs

Program Booklet Printing

- In the past we have gotten the UAH CoE Dept. to print our Program Booklets to hand out on Competition Day. They gave these programs to us as an In-Kind Donation.
(Actual cost ~ \$ 500)
- We print 300 copies of a 12 page booklet, with schedule of events, school names, team names, sponsor names, etc.
- Since we have changed venues, we will need to request another entity to print them for us as an In-Kind Donation.
- We would like to request to see if MDA could print these program booklets for us if at all

Impact

- FC brochures are sent out to over 700 Middle Schools Principals in Alabama
- FC Brochures are sent to over 130 Alabama Superintendents
- Bentley Systems in Huntsville, Alabama so kindly mails out these brochures as an in-kind donation to our Program
- Bentley Systems also sponsors a  Meet & Greet Luncheon each year for

Strengths

- We have a very strong Planning Committee that has been working together for more than a decade
- Our Engineers and Volunteers in the Huntsville area love to give back to the students of Alabama
- The Future City Program is LOVED by our students and they want to return each year from 6th – 8th grade!
- This program sells itself via word of mouth mainly from the students
- National Office is always eager to help us with publicity and future growth.
- Local sponsors / partners keep us successful every year

Weaknesses

- This Regional Competition is implemented 100% by volunteers
- All our “manpower” is given by those who work full-time
- Need people to help us recruit schools
- Need people to help us recruit teachers
- Funding is always an issue across all regions

Opportunities / Threats

- Tap into our local retired engineer pool for more volunteers and team mentors
- Seek more free sources of publicity to get the word out
- Tap into new sources for Corporate Sponsorship

Threats

- Company sponsorship becomes a challenge every year
- Travel for schools becomes increasingly difficult

Questions & Comments

If you have any questions, suggestions
or ways to get involved with the
Alabama Regional, please contact:

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